

NEWS RELEASE from

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIPINSKI ANNOUNCES \$275,000 GRANT TO RIVERSIDE TO RESTORE HISTORIC WATER TOWER

[WASHINGTON, D.C.]—Congressman Bill Lipinski announced today that the U.S. Department of Interior has awarded a \$275,000 grant to the Village of Riverside historic preservation of the Riverside Water Tower. This Federal Save America's Treasures grant is allocated from the Fiscal Year 2003 appropriation of the Historic Preservation Fund.

"Not only will these much needed funds be used to bring this historic Water Tower to its former grandeur and preserve it into the future, but they will also be key in improving the Village's water system," stated Lipinski.

The Village of Riverside is designated by the U.S. Department of Interior as a National Historic Landmark, and the Riverside Historic Water Tower is the second oldest water storage facility in the State of Illinois. The Tower is a noteworthy representation of the "modern" suburban community model, which was recognized when the Village received its designation. The original structure was built in 1870, and was designed by William Le Baron Jenney, in an elaborate "Swiss Gothic" Style. The tower has gone through changes and additions over the years, most remarkably a devastating fire in 1913, which destroyed the tower top.

"The Village of Riverside is faced with the challenge of making sure the community is constantly maintained in a way that is respectful of its National Landmark designation and of its residents. This grant will allow us make one of the capital improvements needed to uphold this responsibility," said Riverside Mayor Harold Wiaduck.

The Village of Riverside's plans to restore the Water Tower are extensive. In addition to the full restoration of the tower exterior, it also includes an adaptive reuse of the interior. This involves the repair and restoration of the 1870 tower masonry and repair and replacement of the heavily corroded iron components of the balcony.

The Save America's Treasures grants are matching grants to preserve nationally significant endangered intellectual and cultural artifacts and historic structures and sites. This allocation is one of only two Federal Save America's Treasures Grants awarded in Illinois this year.

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